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**PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: 2003P08477US**

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Date: 7/8/05

By Raquel West: 

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor(s): Nelson H. Oliver, et al	)	Examiner: Jaworski, Francis J.
Application No.: 10/646,222	)	Art Unit: 3737
Filed: August 22, 2003	)	
Title: COMPOSITE ACOUSTIC ABSORBER FOR ULTRASOUND TRANSDUCER BACKING MATERIAL AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE	)	
	)	

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patent  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Sir:

A Restriction Requirement for the above case was mailed on June 10, 2005 with a one (1) month period to respond. Thus, the due date for the Response is July 10, 2005.

Group I is directed to the ultrasonic transducer and Group II is drawn to a method of manufacturing the ultrasonic transducer. The Examiner asserts that Group I and Group II are distinct inventions.

In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants assert that the search and examination of all of the claims can be made without serious burden to the Examiner, therefore, the Examiner should Examine all the claims on the merits even if

the application includes claims to two independent or distinct inventions. See MPEP § 803.

In the event that the instant Restriction Requirement is maintained despite the above argument, the Applicants provisionally elect Group I (i.e. claims 1-21) with traverse for the reasons presented above, and respectfully request that upon the finding of allowability fo Group I, the claims of Group II be rejoined as set forth at MPEP 821.04.

The Applicants expressly reserve the right under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to file a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter during the pendency of this application, or an application claiming priority of this application.

Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and seek early allowance thereof. If for some reason the Examiner is unable to allow the claims in the next Office Action and believes that an interview would be helpful, it is requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned.

PLEASE MAIL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

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Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 7/8/05